vi. Waiver of the requirement of No Objection Certificate from Ministry of Human Resource Development.

vii. Extendibility on the ground of clearing supplementaries.

Victimization of Indians in Nepal

1062. SHRIMATI SYEDA ANWARA TAIMUR:
SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of Nepal's Maoists victimising Indians, like raiding of Dabur-Nepal Greenhouse leading to its closure, threatening to close Dabur-Nepal factory at Birgunj, serving a demand not to Indian Embassy's pension office at Pokhara etc.;

(b) if so, the steps that have been taken by Government in this regard, especially in view of India's playing a prominent role in extending assistance for Nepal's multi-faceted development; and

(c) whether the matter has been taken with Nepal's Prime Minister and also at diplomatic level and the result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) There have been incidents of extortion and intimidation against businessmen and industrial units in Nepal by the CPN (Maoists) and their affiliated trade unions. These include Indian businesses and joint ventures.

(b) and (c) Cases involving the safety and security of Indians in Nepal, including Indian businesses and joint ventures have been taken up by the government of India with the Government of Nepal, including at the highest levels. The Government of Nepal has been requested to investigate these cases and provide adequate security and safety to all Indians, whose welfare and security is of prime concern to the Government of India.

Assistance for Buddhist and Hindu refugees in Nepal

1063. SHRI VINAY KATIYAR:
SHRI SHREEGOPAL VYAS:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Buddhist and Hindu refugees residing in refugee camps in Nepal have sought assistance from Government of India for their repatriation to Bhutan;

(b) whether it has come to notice that efforts are being made for their conversion; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto and the details of steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) Government are aware of representations highlighting the concerns of refugees in camps in Nepal.

(b) No.

(c) The issue of refugees living in camps in Nepal is a bilateral matter between Nepal and Bhutan. Government of India are aware that Nepal and Bhutan have been discussing ways and means to resolve the problem. Government have urged both Nepal and Bhutan, with whom we enjoy close and friendly relations, to work towards an early resolution of this humanitarian problem.

Exodus of Indians from Nepal

1064. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have raised the issue with Government of Nepal regarding gradual exodus of people of Indian origin;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) if so, the response of Government of Nepal; and

(d) whether it is a fact that such exodus is still continuing due to threats from Maoists?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI PRANAB MUKHERJEE): (a) and (b) Cases involving the safety and security of Indians in Nepal, including Indian businesses and joint ventures have been